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PATENT

Attorney's Docket No. 33499/201611

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Severance, Jr.
Appel. No.: 09/772,652
Filed: January 30, 2001
For: IMPROVED GAS FLOW FOR PLASMA ARC TORCH

Group Art Unit: 3742
Examiner: M. Paschall

November 26, 2001

FAX RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

NOV 27 2001

Sir:

GROUP 3700

Pursuant to the Office Action dated August 24, 2001, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

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DEC 03 2001

In the Claims:

Please add the following claims:

Group 3700

31. (New) An electrode adapted for supporting an arc in a plasma arc torch, comprising:

an upper tubular member defining an internal bore therethrough and a threaded portion at one end thereof;

a metallic tubular holder defining a longitudinal axis and having a front and rear end, and a transverse end wall closing the front end, the transverse end wall having a front face and defining a cavity formed in the front face extending rearwardly along the longitudinal axis, the rear end defining a central passageway in fluid communication with the internal bore for directing a gas to the front end of said holder, said holder further defining a plurality of side openings positioned proximate the front end of said holder that are in fluid communication with the central passageway such that the gas can exit the central passageway only via the side openings positioned proximate the front end of said holder; and

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01 FC:103 90.00 CH
02 FC:102 84.00 CH

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